# Virginia Green

# Virginia Green Lodging



# Alone Mill Schoolhouse Lexington, VA

Certification in Virginia Green is a recognition of the values we believe in and have had in practice during renovations and since the Schoolhouse opened in 2008.

#### **GREEN ACTIVITIES**

- **Optional Linen Service.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:
  - Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
  - Change linens only upon request
  - Train house cleaners on process for optional linen service
  - Purchase water and energy efficient washers and dryers
  - Use non-phosphate, non-toxic and biodegradable laundry detergents
  - Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
  - Line dry linens whenever possible
- Recycling and Waste Reduction. Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:
  - Provide the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, steel cans, newspaper, office paper
  - Have recycling bins located:
  - Also recycle office paper, toner cartridges, cardboard and electronic equipment
  - Track overall solid waste costs
  - Have a numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill

#### Guest rooms

- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items

### Dining room (or meetings/events)

- Do not use any disposable containers, dishware, cutlery, or cups
- Use compostable food service items and direct this material to available composting operations in your area
- Use cloth napkins
- Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles

#### Office

- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists when possible
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

#### Building and grounds

- Use green cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Re-use paint thinners
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping
- Water Conservation. The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

#### Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed:
  - High efficiency dishwashers
  - Low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)
  - Low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)

#### Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilizes native species
- Have an effective storm water management plan which pervious
- Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:
  - Track overall energy bills

#### Heating and cooling

- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Have installed ceiling fans

#### Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)

#### Appliances and electronic devices

- Use ENERGY STAR qualified appliances (commercial kitchens, heating and cooling, consumer electronics)
- Use ENERGY STAR qualified office equipment (computers, monitors, copiers, printers, etc.)

## **Building Construction and Renovation**

- Remote control water heater for use during peak hours.

*Virginia Green* is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices is all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation. The program has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism; these practices are the minimum requirements for participation in the program, but encourages participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations.

For more information on *Virginia Green* program, see <a href="https://www.deg.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen">www.deg.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen</a> or <a href="https://www.virginiagreentravel.org">www.virginiagreentravel.org</a>.





